

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition, which is a particulate water-absorbent resin composition comprising a water-absorbent resin (A) of a crosslinked structure obtained by polymerizing an acid-group-containing unsaturated monomer, which composition has a particle size such that particles in the range of 850 to 150 μm (but not including 850 μm) account for not less than 90 weight % of the entirety, and which composition contains a tetra- or more functional polyol (B) at least on surfaces.
2. (Original) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition, which is a particulate water-absorbent resin composition comprising a water-absorbent resin (A) of a crosslinked structure obtained by polymerizing an acid-group-containing unsaturated monomer, which composition contains a tetra- or more functional polyol (B) and a tri- or more functional polycation at least on surfaces.
3. (Original) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition according to claim 2, which has a particle size such that particles in the range of 850 to 150 μm (but not including 850 μm) account for not less than 90 weight % of the entirety.
4. (Original) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition, which is a particulate water-absorbent resin composition comprising a water-absorbent resin (A) of a crosslinked structure obtained by polymerizing an acid-group-containing unsaturated monomer, which composition has a particle size such that particles in the range of 850 to 150 μm (but not including 850 μm) account for not less than 90 weight % of the entirety, and which composition satisfies the following relation:

liquid distribution velocity (LDV) (mm/s) $> -0.186 \times$ water absorption capacity without load (CRC) (g/g) + 5.75
(wherein LDV > 0.10 (mm/s)).

5. (Original) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition, which is a particulate water-absorbent resin composition comprising a water-absorbent resin (A) of a crosslinked structure obtained by polymerizing an acid-group-containing unsaturated monomer, which composition has a particle size such that particles in the range of 850 to 150 μm (but not including 850 μm) account for not less than 90 weight % of the entirety, and which composition is in the range of 0.03 to 0.15 in surface OH/C ratio as determined by photoelectron spectrometry.

6. (Currently amended) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition according to claim 4 ~~or 5~~, which contains a tetra- or more functional polyol (B) at least on surfaces.

7. (Currently amended) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, wherein the water-absorbent resin (A) is in the range of 300 to 600 μm in weight-average particle diameter (D50) and in the range of 0.25 to 0.45 in logarithmic standard deviation ($\sigma\zeta$) of particle size distribution.

8. (Currently amended) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3 or claim 6~~ claim 1, wherein the tetra- or more functional polyol (B) is contained in the range of 0.01 to 20 weight % relative to the water-absorbent resin (A).

9. (Currently amended) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3 or any one of claims 6 to 8~~ claim 1, wherein the tetra- or more functional polyol (B) is a sugar alcohol.

10. (Currently amended) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1, which is not less than 20 g/g in water absorption capacity without load (CRC).

11. (Currently amended) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 10~~ claim 1, which is not less than 20 g/g in water absorption capacity under load (AAP).

12. (Currently amended) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 11~~ claim 1, which is not less than 10 (unit: $10^{-7} \times \text{cm}^3 \times \text{s} \times \text{g}^{-1}$) in saline flow conductivity (SFC).

13. (Currently amended) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 12~~ claim 1, which is not less than 0.15 (g/g/s) in water absorption capacity without load (CRC) (g/g)/liquid-sucking-uprate-(WR) (s).

14. (Currently amended) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 13~~ claim 1, which is not less than 0.15 (g/g/s) in water absorption capacity under load (AAP) (g/g)/liquid-sucking-up rate (WR) (s).

15. (Currently amended) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 14~~ claim 1, which is not less than 0.50 (unit: $10^{-7} \times \text{cm}^3 \times \text{g}^{-1}$) in saline flow conductivity (SFC) (unit: $10^{-7} \times \text{cm}^3 \times \text{s} \times \text{g}^{-1}$)/liquid-sucking-up rate (WR) (s).

16. (Currently amended) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 15~~ claim 1, which is in the range of 300 to 600 μm in weight-average particle diameter (D50) and in the range of 0.25 to 0.45 in logarithmic standard deviation ($\sigma\zeta$) of particle size distribution.

17. (Currently amended) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 16~~ claim 1, wherein the water-absorbent resin (A) of the crosslinked structure is a further surface-crosslinked one.

18. (Original) A process for production of a particulate water-absorbent resin composition, which is a process for production of a particulate water-absorbent resin composition including a water-absorbent resin (A) of a crosslinked structure obtained by polymerizing an acid-group-containing unsaturated monomer,

wherein the water-absorbent resin (A) is such that particles in the range of 850 to 150 μm (but not including 850 μm) account for not less than 90 weight % of the entirety, and further wherein the process includes a step of mixing the water-absorbent resin (A) and a tetra- or more functional polyol (B) together.

19. (Original) A process according to claim 18 for production of a particulate water-absorbent resin composition, wherein the tetra- or more functional polyol (B) is a sugar alcohol.

20. (Currently amended) A process according to claim 18 ~~or 19~~ for production of a particulate water-absorbent resin composition, wherein the water-absorbent resin (A) is in the range of 300 to 600 μm in weight-average particle diameter (D50) and in the range of 0.25 to 0.45 in logarithmic standard deviation($\sigma\zeta$) of particle size distribution.

21. (Currently amended) A process according to ~~any one of claims 18 to 20~~ claim 18 for production of a particulate water-absorbent resin composition, which further includes a step of carrying out a heat treatment so that 10 to 90 % of the mixed tetra- or more functional polyol (B) will remain unreacted in the particulate water-absorbent resin composition.

22. (Currently amended) A process according to ~~any one of claims 18 to 21~~ claim 18 for production of a particulate water-absorbent resin composition, which further includes a step of causing the water-absorbent resin (A) to further react with a surface-crosslinking agent (C) other than the tetra- or more functional polyol (B).